

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADDICTIVE AND MENTAL DISORDERS DIVISION



BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR

JOAN MILES
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STATE OF MONTANA

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September 18, 2006

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – Region VIII
Attn: George Mills, Acting Regional Administrator
Colorado State Bank Building
1600 Broadway, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Mills:

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division, is pleased to submit a Section 1915 (c) Home and Community Based Services Waiver application for adults with severe disabling mental illness. The comparison population is nursing facility and as such, participants in the waiver must meet nursing facility level of care and meet severe disabling mental illness criteria. The State is requesting the following provisions of the Social Security Act to be waived:

Section 1902(a)(1), regarding statewideness; and
Section 1902(a)(10)(B), regarding comparability of services.

Addictive and Mental Disorders Division staff are extremely appreciative of the guidance and technical assistance provided by the following CMS staff: Mary Kissell and Diane Lorengo-Volk (Denver) and Mary P. Sowers and April Forsythe (Baltimore). They are delightful individuals knowledgeable in their fields.

Please contact the following staff in the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division staff if you have questions: Jane Bernard (406-444-9530), Lou Thompson (406-444-9657), or Joyce DeCunzo (406-444-3639). We look forward to this new opportunity and providing adults with severe disabling mental illness a choice to receive long term care services in the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Chappuis".

John Chappuis, Deputy Director
State Medicaid Director

C Jane Bernard
Lou Thompson

Joyce DeCunzo
Mary Kissell – Denver CMS